



Beverly Mills
Director



BRIAN M. HUGHES
County Executive



Virgen Velez
Director

Elizabeth Maher Muoio
Director
Economic Development
& Sustainability

WIB Board Quarterly Meeting Minutes ♦ April 24, 2012 ♦ 12:30 p.m.

Attendance: Mary Gay Abbott-Young (Rescue Mission of Trenton), Jerell Blakeley (ETS), Mary E. Burks (Trenton Public Schools), Frank Cirillo (Mercer County Board of Social Services), J. Scott Clemmensen (Capital Health System), Barry Cole (Mercer Street Friends), Bruce Colligan (RWJ Hospital), Donald DiLeo (retired AFL-CIO), Maribel Duarte (WIB), Alan Edenzon (Firmenich, Inc.), Teresa Grigg (Sun National Bank), Edward Houlihan (Shiseido/Davlyn Industries), Anna Lustenberg (Verizon), Nina Melker (Hopewell Valley Community Bank), Connie Mercer (HomeFront), Dennis Micai (TASK), Beverly Mills (WIB), James Purcell (WIB Chair), Bonny Ross (St. Francis Medical Center), Kimberly Schneider (Mercer County Technical Schools), Keith Secrest (Kinetics Industries, Inc.), Wendell Thomas (LWD), Liz Tindall (Mercer Regional Chamber of Commerce), Virgen Velez (One-Stop Career Center), Samuel Vin (LWD), Kenneth William (Urban Warfare), Joyce Yon (One-Stop Career Center)

Welcome and meeting opened by Jim Purcell

Approval of January 24, 2012 minutes (with corrected date to read “January 24, 2012) “

Moved: Bruce Colligan, Seconded: Scott Clemmensen

Committee Report Highlights

Early Childhood (Ad Hoc Literacy Committee): The 4th Annual *Early Mercer Reads* event was held on 4/20/12. This event is aimed at promoting early childhood literacy. There were 32 participating child care centers. Over 110 volunteers from government, organizations, and private sector employers (ETS, Shiseido, Horizon NJ Health, BMS) read books to children ages 0-5. Certificates signed by the County Executive were given to both the participating centers and volunteer readers. A book drive was also held at the County Administration Building

One-Stop Career Center: Business Services has had 27 positive recruitments resulting in 50 hires since July 2011 (an increase of 20%); also 11 on-the-job training contracts serving 25 customers and resulting in 14 hires.

The *Youth Employment Partnership (YEP)* pilot provides job readiness and life skills preparation, along with occupational training and/or paid internships to out-of-school WIA eligible youth, ages 18-21. The Princeton Chamber of Commerce has assisted in providing employers who give these youth opportunities to explore their

area of interest “hands-on”. The goal is for the employer to offer unsubsidized employment at the completion of the internship, although it is not required. Virgen encouraged WIB members to get involved. The Federal Government is not funding any summer youth programs for youth. The Youth Staff along with Business Services is actively soliciting jobs from various retail employers. Workshops aimed at preparing youth for any summer employment opportunities will be held at the One-Stop as well as at local high schools.

The One-Stop is looking at the feasibility of funding transportation for a limited number of youth who obtain employment at Six Flags/Great Adventure.

The Youth RFP will be available at the end of May/beginning of June. The Youth Investment Council will discuss at its upcoming meeting.

Twenty-one TANF and 12 GA proposals were received and are currently being reviewed. Contract period will commence on July 1, 2012

WIB Members Oath of Office

The following WIB Members were sworn in by Sarah Crowley, Esq., County Counsel:

New Members:

Jerrell Blakeley: 4/1/12 – 4/1/15

Fred Dumont (not present): 4/1/12 – 4/1/15

Reappointments:

Don Dileo: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Mary Gay Abbott-Young: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Mary E. Burks: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Frank Cirillo: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Scott Clemmensen- Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Barry Cole: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Melvin Crawford: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Alan Edenzon: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Dennis Micai: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Michele Recla Liebttag: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15 (not present)

Jim Purcell: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Bonny Ross: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Keith Secrest: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15

Nancy Thompson: Reappointment: 2/1/12 – Term Expire: 2/1/15 (not present)

WIB Committee Appointments

Current and Interim Chairs were announced for the following WIB committees:

Youth: Nina Melker, Vice-President at Hopewell Valley Community Bank is the Interim Chair (mandated)

Disabilities: Dr. Kimberly Schneider, Superintendent of Mercer County Technical Schools is the new Interim Chair (mandated)

Literacy: MCCC Provost Monica Weaver and Melinna Harris, Co-chairing (mandated)

Oversight (One Stop): Keith Secrest, Chair (mandated)

Business Integration Committee: Subcommittees under the umbrella of the ad hoc *Business Integration Committee* were formed and are geared toward sector specific growth in Mercer County. These include Healthcare (Scott Clemmenssen, Chair), Education (Ernest Price, Interim Chair), Advanced Technology (Keith Secrest, Interim Chair), Bio-Pharma (Vicki Gaddy, Interim Chair), Hospitality and Leisure (Chair pending). Each Chair is tasked with recruiting its own members.

WIB Recertification

Statewide WIBS must meet federal guidelines by January 2014 in order to be recertified. There are 14 areas that are being assessed, including membership, by-laws, board elections, attendance policies, etc. A baseline assessment of the Mercer WIB was already completed in March, 2012 by the State Employment Training Commission (SETC). The WIB is responsible for ensuring that progress reports are submitted as scheduled. In order to ensure compliance, the following actions were taken:

An ad-hoc committee to draft WIB By-Laws was formed. Members who volunteered include Keith Secrest, Anna Lustenberg, Vin Samuels, and Teresa Grigg. The draft will be presented to the Board at the next meeting for approval.

The Executive committee will meet to discuss the One-Stop Budget for Program Year 2011. Beverly will obtain clarity on the definition of a “budget” as per the SETC.

Election of WIB Officers

Al Edenzon acted as Judge of Elections

- Jim Purcell was presented for nomination of WIB Chair by Al Edenzon; a motion to close the nomination by Dennis Micai and 2nd motion by Dr. Kim Schneider. Jim Purcell elected by all voting Board members
- Monica McKee presented for nomination of WIB Vice Chair by Dr. Kimberly Schneider; motion to close nominations by Anna Lustenberg and 2nd motion by Teresa Grigg. Monica McKee elected by all voting Board members

Announcements

Joyce Yon announced a specialized recruitment for the Financial Industry sector to be held on 5/23/12 at the MCCC/JKC; banks will interview candidates on the spot

Veterans have a strong presence in Mercer County and the One-Stop Career Center is exceeding in their performance measures in serving this population [25 Veterans were hired with the NJDOT in February 2012]

Meeting Adjourned: 1:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: July 24, 2012